GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:288
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2001
NEXUS BETWEEN FILM INDUSTRY AND UNDERWORLD
SUKENDER REDDY GUTHA;VIJAY GOEL

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that there is a nexus between the underworld and the film industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being contemplated by the Government to put an end to this unholy alliance and to finance the film industry;

(d) whether the film industry has been facing threats from mafia gangs and is suffering from other malaise; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 288 FOR REPLY O
16.3.2001

(a) to (e): `Police` and `Public Order` are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule tothe Constitution of India and, as such, registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments.

In order to facilitate a greater flow of institutional finance to the film industry, Notification dated 16.10.2000 was issued by the Department of Economic Affairs (Banking Division), Ministry of Finance, whereunder the `Entertainment Industryincluding Films` has been specified as an approved activity under `Industrial Concern` inexercise of the powers conferred by Section 2(c) (xvii) of the IDBI Act. The Departmentof Economic Affairs (Banking Division) has asked the IDBI to evolve well-recognizedand acceptable standards to enable financial institutions to fund ventures relating to the film industry. The Department of Economic Affairs (Banking Division) has also asked the RBI along with the IDBI to circulate necessary guidelines to banks in this regard.

An Advisory Group comprising key representatives of the film sector has been setup to advise the Ministry on policy and other issues relating to the film industry. A Committee for Development of the Entertainment Sector including films, has been set up, in addition, under the Chairpersonship of the Minister for Information and Broadcastingand comprising State Ministers for Information and Public Relations from nine States.